

cannot eliminate the shortcomings that always occur when the state assumes authority over others and when the will of one nation is forced on another, whether or not it is done with good intentions.

I realize that all conservatives are not neoconservatives, and all neocons do not necessarily agree on all points, which means that in spite of their tremendous influence, most Members of Congress and those in the administration do not necessarily take their marching orders from the AEI or Richard Perle. But to use this as a reason to ignore what neoconservative leaders believe, write about and agitate for with amazing success, I might point out, would be at our own peril.

This country still allows open discourse, though less every day, and we who disagree should push the discussion and expose those who drive our policies. It is getting more difficult to get fair and balanced discussion on the issues because it has become routine for the hegemony to label those who object to preemptive war and domestic surveillance as traitors, unpatriotic, and un-American. The uniformity of support for our current foreign policy by major and cable news networks should concern every American. We should all be thankful for C-SPAN and the Internet.

Michael Ledeen and other neoconservatives are already lobbying for war against Iran. Ledeen is pretty nasty to those who call for a calmer, reasoned approach by calling those who are not ready for war cowards and appeasers of tyrants. Because some urge a less militaristic approach to dealing with Iran, he claims they are betraying America's best traditions.

I wonder where he learned American history. It is obvious that Ledeen does not consider the Founders and the Constitution part of our best traditions. We were hardly encouraged by the American revolutionaries to pursue an American empire. We were, however, urged to keep the Republic that they so painstakingly designed.

If the neoconservatives retain control of the conservative, limited-growth movement in Washington, the ideas once championed by the conservatives of limiting the size and scope of government will be a long-forgotten dream.

The believers in liberty ought not deceive themselves. Who should be satisfied? Certainly not conservatives, for there is no conservative movement left. How about liberals? Should they be satisfied? They are pleased with the centralization of education and medical programs in Washington and support many of the administration's proposals, but none of the liberals should be pleased with the steady attack on civil liberties of all American citizens and the now-accepted consensus that preemptive war for almost any reason is an acceptable policy for dealing with all the conflicts and problems of the world.

In spite of the deteriorating conditions in Washington, with loss of personal liberty, a weak economy, exploding deficits and perpetual war, followed by nation-building, there are still quite a number of us who would relish the opportunity to improve things in one way or another. Certainly a growing number of frustrated Americans from both the right and the left are getting anxious to see this Congress do a better job. But first Congress must stop doing a bad job.

We are at a point where we need a call to arms, both here in Washington and across the country. I am not talking about firearms. Those of us who care need to raise our arms and face our palms out and begin waving and shouting, "Stop. Let us stop this. Enough is enough." It should include liberals, conservatives and independents. We are all getting a bum rap from the politicians who are pushed by the polls and controlled by special interest money.

One thing is certain: No matter how morally justified programs and policies seem, the ability to finance all the guns and butter being promised is limited, and those limits are becoming more apparent every day. Spending, borrowing and printing money cannot be the road to prosperity. It has not worked in Japan, and it is not working here. As a matter of fact, it has never worked at the present time throughout history.

A point is always reached where government planning, spending and inflation run out of steam. Instead of these old tools reviving an economy, as they do in the early stages of economic interventionism, they eventually become a problem. Both sides of the political spectrum must one day realize that limitless government intrusion in the economy, in our personal lives and the affairs of other nations cannot serve the best interests of America.

This is not a conservative problem, nor is it a liberal problem, it is a government intrusion problem that comes from both groups, albeit for different reasons. The problems emanate from both camps who champion different programs for different reasons. The solution will come when both groups realize that is not merely a single-party problem, or just a liberal or just a conservative problem.

Once enough of us decide we have had enough of all these so-called good things that the government is always promising, or, more likely, when the country is broke and the government is unable to fulfill its promises to its people, we can start a serious discussion on the proper role of government in a free society. Unfortunately, it will be some time before Congress gets this message that the people are demanding true reform. This requires that those responsible for today's problems are exposed and their philosophy of pervasive government intrusion is rejected.

Let it not be said that no one cared, that no one objected once it is realized

that our liberties and wealth are in jeopardy. A few have, and others will continue to do so, but too many, both in and out of government, close their eyes to the issue of personal liberty and ignore the fact that endless borrowing to finance endless demands cannot be sustained.

True prosperity can only come from a healthy economy and sound money. That can only be achieved in a free society.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. DELAURO) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCGOVERN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KIND, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. DELAURO, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BURGESS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, July 16.

Mr. TANCREDO, for 5 minutes, July 17.

Mrs. BLACKBURN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, July 17.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HOBSON, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, July 14, 2003, at 10:30 a.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3092. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Navy, Case Number 02-05, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

3093. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Deletion of